

JULIUS J. SPOHN – LOUIS ANGELONE

ST. JAMES HIGH SCHOOL

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

8 MM MOVIES FROM 1956 TO 1960

My friend, classmate, Louis Angelone took these 8mm video's of the kids we went to St. James High School with here in Newark from 1956 to 1960. He has given me his permission to give this DVD to the Newark Public Library to add with my Photo Collection.

We were a small school but we always had a great Basketball and Baseball team. Here are the names of the guys in this video. In the rest of this text I will use only their first names.

Myself: Julius J. Spohn – President of our Senior Class 1959/60; Joe Alves; Louie Angelone; Al Balevicz; Johnny Bottino; Dave Dillon; Jack Fitzsimmons; George Fuchs; Jack Gaven; Tommy Gerstner; Joe Gramiak; Joe McKenna; Jack O'Connor; Ralph Paolella; Daniel Ur.

Our Pastor was Msgr. Thomas Reardon and our Coaches were John Murphy and Father John Mannion. Our school Principal was Sister Elaine Marie – Sisters of Charity. The teachers you see most often are Ms. Harriet Mellor and Ms. Kathleen Wandell.

Many of the shots were in the driveway between the Church and School. When we are outside on the street we were mostly going across the street at lunch time to a Pizza store on Lafayette Street – which we were not supposed to go to and Sister Elaine would often come over there and chase us out of the place.

OK. Here goes:

Baseball practice in Independence Park down neck.

Group of us in driveway.

Initiation Day for new Freshmen in school court yard.

Joe McKenna, Joe Alves, Jack Fitzsimmons, Louie, Jack Gaven, Joe McDermott.

Freshman Initiation Day.

George Fuchs, Me, Louie, Some of the Girls, Jack F., Joe Mc., Joe A., Joe McDermott.

Jefferson and Lafayette Streets.

Pizza store.

Jack, Louie, Joe, Me.

Driveway.

Father Mannion.

Jack O'Connor.

Driveway – Court yard.

Classrooms – girls.

Street.

John, George F., Al.

Driveway.

Ms. Mellor (Typing, Shorthand, Bookkeeping) and Ms. Ruth Burke (English and Science), Sister Elaine Marie.

All of the guys.

Ms. Kathleen Wandell (History).

Tommy Gerstner and the Girls at Church.

The fence across the street on Jefferson Street when they were building the “new” St. James Hospital in 1958 and 1959.

Ms. Mellor in the classroom.

Me and my camera.

Freshmen Group in the courtyard.

THE END. I hope that everyone enjoys seeing what my high school days were like at St. James High School here in Newark back in 1956 to 1960.

JULIUS J. SPOHN – MY 8MM MOVIES ON DVD

TIME: 40 MINUTES

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

MID 1950's

1958: Birthday party at high school friend Annette's house on 15th Avenue in Newark. Annette (blue dress); me; Jimmy Deck; Tommy Tansey; Helen Plante; her family and cousins. Me dancing with her.

1958: South 12th Street – my block – snow storm – photos from my living room window. My dog Blacky in the backyard; trees covered with snow; mail man delivering mail; West Side Playground; snow man that my friend George Hahn (gray hoodie) and I (red coat) built. In my backyard my Aunt Mary Tighe-Farrell; the kids next door; me; and my dog Blacky.

1958: Front of my house at 332 South 12th Street: My friends the Olvaney and Metzgar's (cousins) who lived across the street. My father in the backyard with his cigar on the way to work.

1957: South Orange Ave and South 12th Street: My playmates Laura "Sissy" Pulcine and Joanne Tricarico and her mother – playing in our backyard. Notice the laundry hanging on the lines.

1957: Inside of the candy store under my apartment on the corner of South Orange Ave and South 12th Street. I had just gotten my 8mm movie camera and my friend "Red" Charlie Guatta (blue sweater). The film is dark because I did not have the proper setting on the camera.

1957: Asbury Park: My Aunt Anna Tighe Balcome – tall – white hat; her lady friend; my Aunt Mary Tighe Farrell (floral dress); my Mother Helen Tighe Spohn (pink dress with necklace); Beach/Ocean; "Casino" in Ocean Grove – in the 1940's there was a sign on the little section of the beach right there that read: FOR COLORED PEOPLE ONLY; Boardwalk; rides and games; "Convention Hall;" Me and my mother; my mother and Aunt Mary walking in front of the Berkley Carteret Hotel.

1957: The jewelry store with shells in the window; VILLA PENZA RESTAURANT with my Aunt Mary Farrell and my mother. This was the year when the movie BRIDGE ON THE RIVER KWAI came out and the movie theater built a similar bridge across the street in front of the theater.

1958: In front of St. Antoninus Rectory (Priest House). My friends Bobby Traylor and Jimmy Deck; Me; Ray Deck. Father Sullivan, OP, Jimmy Deck, Ray Deck.

1958 Cont'd: South Orange Ave and South 12th Street: The apartment building I grew up in. Me and my friend Bobby Pulcine. His mother Stella hanging clothes out on the line in the backyard. Me & Bobby up on the roof with the dead pigeon. The garbage shed in the back yard. I am wearing the black turtle neck sweater and Bobby is wearing the white tee shirt.

1957: At West Side Playground with George Hahn, Tommy Tansey, Bob Pulcine, Richie, Walter Hahn, Johnny Tavella.

In front of my house on South 12th Street. Bobby's mother Stella carrying bags of groceries. My high school friend Jack Fitzsimmons with his Good Humor cart on 12th Street and 13th Ave.

Me, Bob Pulcine, and George Hahn hitting softballs up at West Side track area. Over by the basketball court at West Side: Me (brown shirt); George Hahn (plaid shirt); Bob Pulcine (white shirt).

1958: Asbury Park: Peterson's Restaurant: Aunt Mary Tighe (black dress); Aunt Anna Tighe (pink dress); my landlady Mae Miller; Mom – Helen Tighe with Black and White dots on top of her dress. Some of the women she worked with at Prudential Insurance Company here in Newark. She worked there from the early 1920's till I was born in 1941. Jewelry store with shells in window; VILLA PENZA RESTAURANT. Inside of the aquarium (very dark); sea lions. Small boats on Wesley Lake in Ocean Grove. "Casino." Wesley Lake: Swan Ride, Skee-Ball game; paddle boats; Steam Wheeler Boat. Whip Ride. Beach. Ferris Wheel. Small boat ride on Wesley Lake. Mae Miller and her friends.

1958: St. Patrick's Day Parade from the steps in front of City Hall in Newark: Irish Dancers; Rialto Theater across the street from City Hall; Dancers; Knights of Columbus; Bands; Huge Crowds; "Mumers" from Philadelphia with their huge feather plumes; Newark Mounted Police.

1958: My bedroom at 332 South 12th Street. Mom taking her teeth out to play "games" with me; Christmas tree; Dining room.

1958: At my friend Bobby Pulcine's house: His mother Stella; dog "Chucky," father: Donato; his sister Laura "Sissy" Pulcine; Bobby with his trains, Me, Sissy at her new typewriter. Scrabble game.

1958: Christmas at my house: Mom, Aunt Mary; Me; our living room (dark); dining room; Me and my train set with the Milk Car; dinner with the old-fashioned "Melmac" dinnerwear (various colors). Mom, Dad sleeping on couch; my dog Blacky; my train set. Mom with dish in the air; taking her teeth out; in our dining room. The kids who lived downstairs from us – the Sarno family.

1958/1959: New Years Eve at Bobby Pulcine's house: Stella, Donoto, Chucky (dog); Sissy, Me, Bobby, noise makers.

1957: My dining room, living room bedroom. All are dark. My bedroom. THANKSGIVING: Turkey in the electric oven; Dad coming through the door with bags in his arms; Aunt Mary carving the turkey; Dining room – dinner. Melmac dishes – Mom, Dad, Aunt Mary, Blacky.

1958: My darkroom in the basement. Me in my bedroom with my typewriter.

1944: OLD MOVIE SOMEONE GAVE ME: Farm house someplace. Beautiful woman & kid in park in Florida (?). Zoo with Flamingo's. Soldiers. Central Park boat lake. NY Subways. Buildings in Manhattan. TIMES SQUARE: 5TH War Loan Bond sale; Movie: GOING MY WAY with Bing Crosby; 43rd Street and Times Square street sign. The beautiful woman in front of her mirror.

THE END.

I HOPE THAT EVERYONE ENJOYS SEEING WHAT MY PART OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY WAS LIKE IN THE MID 1950'S.